PIKES PEAK RADIO AMATEUR ASSOC.

Ø BEAT

COLO. SPRINGS,
COLORADO

JANUARY 1978

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MEETING NOTICE: The Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association will meet this month at 7:30 pm on January 11 at the Security Savings and Loan Association Building on the corner of East Platte and Union. All interested in amateur radio are invited to attend. The program will be a film and introduction to CPR--cardio-pulmonary resuscitation--by city firemen. (Anybody got a medical dictionary handy, or did I guess right on that?)

TNX FM WBØMHP: Well, I guess Dave WBØTAQ isn't the only one that has trouble putting the Zero Beat articles and the calendar together and having it come out just right. Although I am a month late, I would like to express my sincerest thanks to everyone taking part in our Mall of the Bluffs display and message center of November 12 and 13.

The weekend was the ultimate climax of the efforts of about 40 hams and more than a handfull of XYLs and families. It was a huge success.

Displays consisted of operating stations on 2-meter RTTY, 2-meter FM, 2-meter SSB receive, HF receive, SSTV both live and recorded, a rare DX QSL card display, and a film entitled "Moving up to Ham Radio."

It was hard to decide which part of the display seemed to draw the most interest, however the SSTV, RTTY and the Educational Committee table, a last minute idea, were all fighting for number one.

At the helm of the SSTV display was Ray WØWYZ and his helpers Frank WBØPAJ and Jim WBØYJF. Heading up the message center was Mike KØTER. One hundred messages were initiated and a BPL (Brass Pounders' League) award should be on its way for the club. Mike's RTTY station at the Mall was equipped with Greg WA2OOD's RTTY converter and keyboard, and Larry WBØKDN's 2-meter base. Manning the message center were Kim WBØUUW, Jack WBØRWC, Jerry WBØTCG, Louie WØPCZ, Dave WBØSDW, Bill WBØYJP, Mark WBØTLQ, Barry WØMOG, John WØPQI, and Gale WBØYEA.

Dave WBØTAQ managed the RTTY at Mike's QTH in order to receive, sort, and retransmit messages into the NTS nets. Steve WBØQPQ handled the 2-meter FM messages for retransmission from his QTH.

The Educational Committee table had capable hams on board to answer the question "How do I become a ham?" Available were Gordy WBØTIC, Mint WAØYTK, Chuck WØRNT, Dennis WBØYKH, and Ray WBØICV.

P P R A A D I R E C T O R S

PRESIDENT	*Ray Uberecken WØWYZ, 318 Kenwood Cir	471-7134
VICE-PRES.	Doug Moloney WBØMHP, 3817 Vaquero Cir So	599-9605
SECRETARY	Gordon Denno WBØTIC, 4718 El Camino	598-0408
TREASURER	*Dick Schlueter WBØPNX, Box 38 Grn Mtn Falls 80819	684-2153
Board Member	*Dick Cohen K6DBR, 4965 Brown Valley Lane	599-5645
Board Member	*Dave Allen WBØTAQ, 821 N. Cascade	471-0642
Board Member	Mike Stansberry KØTER, 2732 E. Monument	475-8650
Board Member	Oak Stockton KØROL, 2023 Essex Lane	596-1395

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The PPRAA meets at 7:30pm on the Second Wednesday of each month in the Security Savings and Loan Building, East Platte at Union Blvd.

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TNX (con'd): Dan WDØBTD with Brian Denno, George WBØWHZ and brother Werner as helpers, did a FB job showing the film every half hour, which was well received by approximately 250 viewers.

Ken WØTGL and Steve WBØTLP put together a great collection of QSLs and Steve played recorded DX QSOs, which drew a lot of interest. Dick WBØPNX, our chief antenna engineer, put together quite an elaborate "farm" which did a good job getting our signals from the mall to all points beyond.

Our 2-meter SSB station was handled by Dave WBØRRU, Richard WDØBBW, and Dave WBØSSG--and a good looking station at that.

Tables and chairs were plentiful throguh the efforts of Charleen WBØYOB and Jerry WAØWSY. And as always nothing this big gets by without someone yelling "Smile," or "Look at Joe," etc. And of course Bart WAØYOH was there, camera in hand.

Last but not least, our sign painter, Denise Smith, Dennis' daughter, topped off the exhibit with her hand-painted signs which were second to none.

In conclusion, Amateur Radio in the eyes of many Colorado Springs residents took on a new light and meaning through the hard work of all that helped. If I've missed anyone, it is truly unintentional and I apologize.

On behalf of Bud and myself, I want to wish everyone the Best in '78 and again, many thanks for making 1977 a good year for Amateur Radio and the PPRAA.

Doug WBØMHP

WANTED: Heathkit Six-er. Steve Schaarschmidt WBØQPQ, 596-6594.

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A LETTER: I would like to take this chance to publicly recognize and thank a great ham in our community. He is Kurt Grow WBØHLP, my teacher at El Paso Community College, who has recently gotten his Extra. He is also active in commercial broadcasting, and his patience and pushing are helping me get my Third Class Commercial license with broadcast endorsement. He is a very nice guy and has helped me a lot to get through the school year.

Werner Lewis
ham-and-DJ-to-be

LATE AGAIN, HUH? And super late this time. I even promised myself I would do better this time and have done worse as far as the calendar. I could not in so small a space recount all that has happened in the past two weeks to keep me from this ask. Suffice to say I am painfully aware of the responsibility and trust given to me by all of you and have taken steps to avoid a repeat in February. Thanks for hanging in there.

TAQ

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DECEMBER MINUTES: Ray Uberecken WØWYZ opened the December 14th meeting of the PPRAA at 7:35 pm at the Security Federal Savings and Loan Building. WBØPAJ was recognized for passing the Extra Class examination.

Committee Reports: A. Public Relations--WBØMHP reported that the "Santa's Toyland Net" and the Mall of the Bluffs Demonstration had been successfully completed. The Community School System requested that PPRAA participate in "Expo '78" at the Citadel Mall, January 5 and 6. Preparations were in progress.

B. Technical/Education--WBØTIC stated the ARRL Course Summary Kits had arrived and that they would be used in preparing the 1978 class schedules. C. Interference--WØWYZ indicated the vicinity of the faulty power line pole had been identified near WØVO's QTH. D. RACES--Dean Jaynes WAØPJH reported that a new communications center was being planned and would probably be located in the Police station. Each of the various communications groups would probably be assigned their own "Operations Room" in the complex. A new antenna system was also planned.

E. NTS--KØTER stated all the messages from the Mall of the Bluffs demonstration were passed without problems. F. Field Day--KØTER said WAØVTU placed 15th out of 150 in Category 4 for the 1977 event. G. Swapfest--K6DBR indicated they were aiming at March 19, 1978, hopefully at Peterson AFB again.

Unfinished Business: WBØTIC read a prepared letter to the ARRL regarding the new "Code of Ethics." The letter was approved by the Board and the membership.

New Business: WBØYKH briefly described the Handiham Courage Program for handicapped hams in Colorado. The membership endorsed the effort.

Announcements: The '52 Net is to be held each Wednesday at 7:00 pm (except PPRAA meeting nights) with an occasional swap-net. The purpose of the net is to realize 2-meter capabilities in the event of repeater failures. WBØTLP announced a change in transmitter hunt times. The hunts will begin at 1:00 pm due to shorter available daylight.

Special Recognition: WAØYOH was recognized for his efforts in succsssfully reporting the number of available intensive care pediatric beds in Colorado Springs for the past three months. "Hammy" went to WBØTIB (Bud) for consistently maintaining a meticulously arranged (??) and fire-safe (????) ham shack. Hi. Hi.

Program: WØSIN, the ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Director, discussed: 1. Evolution of the current ARRL teaching programs; 2. Simplification of RACES regulations; 3. Recession of new repeater regulations; 4. Possibility of ARRL equipment insurance for members; and 5. FCC's software problems with out-dated computers.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 pm.

WBØTIC, Secretary

WANTED: Sleep, sleep, sleep. Dave WBØTAQ, 471-0642.

I FIRST MET HIM on the air February 16, 1976. He had the WN-- call that novices had at the time and was talking to another novice in Denver. When he said he lived in Colorado Springs, I wondered if I'd ever meet him. He said he was 14, but he was still a big step beyond me. He was among that privileged group who talk around the country and the world with their exotic radio equipment. He was a ham, and I was just a listener, eavesdropping to help my code copying ability.

The next time I heard him on the air was last spring when he checked into our Colorado Net (CWN) as WB--, and I was able to talk back to him that time and confess my clandestine activities of the preceeding year. And so I got to start getting to know him.

He was lucky, I guess. His dad has been a ham for 25 years or so, and helped him get started. But he didn't need much more than a start. He showed me the old books that formed his knowledge and dreams of ham radio--books now without covers or bindings, so well used were they. His dad just watches proudly now as he sails on by into the realm of radio and electronics. He shows all the signs of a true believer--well developed junk box, more books, an old borrowed scope, 2-meter AM rig, do-it-yourself projects, and plans for college and a career where he can put to use what he knows and will know.

There's nothing fancy about his station. (I guess I like that quality in a ham station.) There's the old scope, the Heath Two-er ("for something different to mess around with"), the HW-16 with a VFO that'll stay on frequency pretty good if you hit it right, the home-made keyer, and a few boat anchors waiting to be tinkered with, so that their voices may once again be heard and appreciated on the airwaves.

He may seem quiet and not say a whole lot, but Steve Schaarschmidt WBØQPQ is going places. If you want to see him excited, give him a challenge--a traffic net assignment or something to build. To see him at ease, watch his hand fly over his keyer paddle...visions of a sleek plane shooting serenely toward a golden sunrise...speed, smoothness, confidence. As "only" a sophomore at Mitchell High School, the world doesn't think it will allow Steve to do much for a number of years--"until he's older." But look out, world. He's already participating in an arena where his age is no factor, where he himself determines where he stands among people of all ages. Yes, and he's already got a pretty big head start on his own plans, his own dreams, his own life. God be with you, Steve. Amen.

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WANTED: One lady from Cincinnati. Dave WBØTAQ, 471-0642.

RUMOR HAS IT (he told me himself, but I don't believe it) that past president Bill Croghan WBØKSW will be married this Thursday, the 12th. Way to go!

WHICH REMINDS ME...the YLs (X and otherwise) are on the move. They will be meeting the Tuesday before the club meeting at Cheri Moloney's to form themselves into a group and start doing things. Look out! If you're a YL (X or otherwise) you might consider tuning into this group. (Hmm. In fact, it sounds like just the group for me.) Oh. But seriously, we as OMs can do a whole lot to encourage this group and we shall surely reap many benefits as we allow their special influence to reach into our sphere of activity.

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JANUARY 1978

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